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Sunday
January 11, 1953

This morning, E., Joey Elliston, myself and the assortment of dogs took a walk.

At 1:00 o'clock Charlie Murphy called me from the White House and said [redacted] he, Butch Fisher, representatives of the Department of Justice, and others were conferring on the implementation of a decision taken Friday at the National Security Council on the oil cartel suit. He stated the points at issue which related to the bringing of a civil suit in lieu of the Grand Jury proceedings. I told him [redacted] I could give no opinion on it as I was not conversant with the papers or the discussion at the National Security Council meeting, that I had been instructed by the Secretary of State not to inform myself on this subject or to participate in any substantive deliberations regarding it. The Secretary had followed the same procedure himself, and Jimmy Lay had been asked to make a note that neither of us had attended the NSC meeting. Under the circumstances I could not be helpful in the matter as I did not know what was really at issue.

Butch Fisher came on the phone and I repeated substantially the same thing to him. It was left that the people at the White House would consult Bill Foster as to what had been decided at the Council meeting.

Chip Bohlen called me at 1:40 to say [redacted] the outline of what had happened at the NSC meeting was apparently known to the New York Times and to Al Friendly of the Washington Post.

Tonight we went to dinner at Mary Beale's in honor of Sir Sacheverell Sitwell. There were 30 or 40 people there, [redacted]

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